

Chapter 19

Rickard did not answer the question.

Sophia and Juniper accused him of not believing them, but everyone told a different version of the story.

Who should he believe then?

“Rickard! It was you who asked me, but you now won't believe me?”

Hesper bit her lower lip tightly. She realized that since the baby was not wrapped in the bundle, Sophia and Hesper's goal was for her to die!

She was injured so severely that she was on the brink of death, yet her husband was still hesitant about who he should believe...

She was extremely disappointed and utterly furious. Had it not been for Rickard, would she need to go through this?

Rickard furrowed his eyebrows when he noticed her stare. “Why are you looking at me like that? I didn't say that I don't believe you.”

"If that's the case, you should hold them responsible for this matter! Why aren't you doing that yet?"

"Each of you sticks to your own side of the story. How am I supposed to hold anyone responsible before the matter has been investigated thoroughly?"

"Rickard..." Hesper shook her head in disappointment. She felt grief washing over her and uttered every word as if she was hurt. "I'm the one injured and I was the one plotted against! What else do you want to investigate? Do you think that my life is worthless, that my role here is to be trampled upon and humiliated by all of you?"

"You make it sound so unpleasant."

Rickard furrowed his eyebrows tightly. He came rushing over at once precisely because he knew that she was injured. Otherwise, why would he show up?

But not only was she unappreciative, she was looking at him like he was the enemy. It made him furious.

"I told you that I will uphold justice for you when the matter has been investigated thoroughly!"

"Forget it."

Hesper removed the blanket nonchalantly and disregarded her multiple body part casts. She said with a determined gaze, "I'll do it if you won't. They want me dead, so I'll take their lives as well. I'm just going to fight it out with them at most!"

She limped her way out and her wounds began to bleed again, but she did not appear to be affected by the pain. She decided that she would uphold justice even if she had to crawl her way to Sophia and Juniper.

"You must have lost your mind!"

Rickard's pupils constricted in shock. He threw her back to the bed without any concern for her resistance.

"Do you know how severely injured you are? Do you think you're capable of getting out of here?"

"What do you want me to do then?" Hesper could not hold back her tears anymore as

she was flooded with grief. Tears streamed down her face and she said, "They put me in harm's way until I almost died! Died! I can't allow myself not to be affected, and I won't wait for you to investigate slowly. I'm going to take back everything they owe me!"

She roared in rage. She did not have much strength in her, but she was emboldened by the rage she felt and would not complain about her pain.

Rickard watched her in silence. He had never seen Hesper acting so desperate and angered from sorrow.

Could it be that what she said was true?

Rickard inhaled a deep breath and said, "If what you said is true, what evidence do you have to prove it? If you can verify that what you said is true, I promise that I won't be impartial." 1

Hesper's head worked quickly. Evidence? How would I have any evidence?

All of a sudden, she remembered the sound of the baby's cry that she heard on the top floor. It was precisely due to that sound that she was convinced that the baby was in the

+15 BONUS

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blanket.

“There’s a voice clip! They recorded the baby’s cry to trick me. I’m sure you’ll find it if you look in their phones!”